

ABSTRACT

A catheter device is disclosed which the hypodermic needle used for insertion is retracted into a protective sheath and left in place during use. An IV fluid flow path is provided that is blocked by the hypodermic needle prior to retraction but is opened by the retraction of the needle from the catheter. The insertion hypodermic needle is not discarded separately but only after the use of the whole catheter device to inject fluids.